

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JULY 19, 2010

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session, Monday, July 19th, 2010 with Commissioners, Tom Barnes, Marvin Cole, Ken Masters, Deborah Adams, Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance.

Commissioner Tom Barnes called the meeting to order, Ken Masters made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 6th meeting as presented. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Marvin Cole made the motion to approve the minutes of the executive session of July 13. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

Jeff Sherwood, Sheriff, reported forty-four (44) inmates currently being housed in the Rush County jail. Six (6) of the inmates are sentenced and thirty-eight (38) inmates are pre-sentenced. Sherwood noted that thirteen (13) inmates are women.

HIGHWAY

Jerry Sitton, Highway Superintendent, asked the commissioners to sign the certificate for Right of Way for Bridges #158 and Bridges #159 located on county road 365 east, south of S State Road 52. Marvin Cole made the motion to approve and sign the certificate of Right of Way. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Jerry Sitton informed the commissioners of the "Blanket Critical Care Policy" application that involves organ or tissue transplant for county employees and their dependents. Sitton informed the commissioners that the estimated savings is \$1,800.00 monthly. Upon review of the document by county attorney Leigh Morning, Marvin Cole made the motion to approve and sign the application. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

Deborah Adams, Auditor, received approval of:

- Payroll claims ending July 23 on a motion by Marvin Cole, seconded by Ken Masters. Motion carried.
- Bi-Weekly claims were approved on a motion by Ken Masters, seconded by Marvin Cole. Motion carried.
- Received approval to attend the AIC annual conference to be held in LaPorte County on a motion by Ken Masters, seconded by Marvin Cole. Adams reported that her registration fees are paid since she serves on the AIC board
- Adams asked the commissioners for their recommendations for salaries of county employees for upcoming 2011 budget year. Tom Barnes spoke on behalf of the

commissioners, saying that they recommended a 5% pay increase for county employees. Barnes continued that the county employees had not received increases in two years.

- Signed the IPEP agreement to compensation of employee (William Case, Jr) and employer on a motion by Ken Masters, seconded by Marvin Cole. Motion carried.

CUM BRIDGE

The commissioners made the motion to retain the Cum Bridge at its current rate for the next year on a motion from Ken Masters, Seconded by Marvin Cole. Motion carried. This was a result from the discovery that the Cum Hospital rate is allowed only twelve (12) years and the time has expired. Deborah Adams provided IC 16-22-5-4 as the guideline

ANDERSON TWP. REGIONAL SEWER DIST

County Attorney Leigh Morning reported that she has been contacted by Ron Wilson, attorney for Lucille Jackman. Wilson had indicated that the questioned track of property currently under ownership by the Rush County Commissioners was to go to the Anderson Twp Regional Sewer District once the grant was completed.

After further discussion Marvin Cole made the motion to convey the parcel to the Anderson Twp Regional Water Sewer District. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

GUNS TO WORK POLICY

County Attorney Leigh Morning shared with the commissioners the new statute IC 34-28-7 that became effective July 1, 2010. Ken Masters made the motion that the County prohibits the control, possession, transfer, sale or use of firearms and ammunition on its premises except as provided by Indiana Code 34-28-7. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MISC.

- Reviewed June Treasurer's report
- Approved and signed the Subrecipient Semi-Annual Report for Western Rush County Regional Water and Sewer District on a motion by Ken Masters, seconded by Marvin Cole. Motion carried.
- Approved and signed the Subrecipient Semi-Annual Report for Manilla Community Fire Department on a motion by Ken Masters, seconded by Marvin Cole. Motion carried.
- Reviewed run reports for June as received by Rush Memorial Ambulance Service and Carthage Fire Dept.
- Reviewed a letter received by Ken Masters regarding a Extreme Motor Sport event held in Ripley Twp. The event was for one (1) day and the adjoining property owner shared her displeasure of the noise.

PUBLIC HEARING

Tom Barnes opened the floor for the public hearing that was scheduled for 9:30 am for the purpose of discussion of the speed limit along 200 North between St Rd 3 and Ft Wayne North and from 300 North along Ft Wayne Road to the Rushville City limit boundary.

Public comment was given by Bill Todd as he stressed that the vehicle safety and the construction of the road project has be good. Todd noted that he could also collect a petition of names opposing the increasing of the speed limit.

Public comment was offered by Terri Nigh, who first approached the commissioners regarding increasing the speed limit. Nigh referred to all county roads being 55mph speed limit and that the speed limit outlined in the school drivers training handbook is also 55 mph. Nigh was corrected that the speed limit is 55 mph unless otherwise posted. Tom Barnes asked Nigh for the petition list of 50 names that she previously offered. No petition was provided during the meeting.

Sheriff Sherwood shared his thoughts that the drivers are safer at the current speed while the roads are under construction.

Ken Masters shared his understanding of the problems and made the motion to increase the speed limit to 35 mph. Jerry Sitton informed the commissioners that this would take ninety (90) days as it would be a special sign order. Sitton continued by strongly urging the commissioners to leave the speed limit alone. Jeff Sherwood did remind the commissioners that with fall approaching, the heavy farm equipment will also slow down the traffic on the discussed roads. County Attorney Leigh Morning reminded the commissioners that, *"This is not a Popularity contest"*.

Following further discussion, County resident Steve Schwering questioned as to the length of time that Main Street will be shut down. The commissioners informed Schwering and those in the audience that they had met with Senator Leising on Friday, July 16th to discuss the two (2) year project. The current Phase I (3rd street to 16th street) is scheduled to be completed by October 29th.

After no further discussion, Ken Masters retracted his motion and spoke that the speed limit should remain at 30 mph until after Phase I of the Main Street is completed.

Motion to adjourn was received from Marvin Cole. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

/c/Tom Barnes

Tom Barnes, Chairman

/c/ Marvin Cole

Marvin Cole

/c/Ken Masters

Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/c/Deborah Adams

Deborah C. Adams, Auditor